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SENATE BILL 465

**46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2004**

INTRODUCED BY

Timothy Z. Jennings

AN ACT

RELATED TO THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE; AMENDING THE MEDICAL PRACTICE ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE NEW MEXICO MEDICAL BOARD TO ADOPT, BY RULE, EXCEPTIONS TO CERTAIN TIME REQUIREMENTS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 61-6-11 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1923, Chapter 44, Section 3, as amended) is amended to read:

"61-6-11. LICENSURE.--

A. The board may consider for licensure a person who is of good moral character, is a graduate of a medical college or school in good standing, has passed an examination approved by the board and has completed two years of an approved postgraduate training program.

B. An applicant who has not completed two years of an approved postgraduate training program, but who otherwise

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1 meets all other licensing requirements, may present evidence to  
2 the board of the applicant's other professional experience for  
3 consideration by the board in lieu of the approved postgraduate  
4 training program. The board shall, in its sole discretion,  
5 determine if the professional experience is substantially  
6 equivalent to the required approved postgraduate training  
7 program.

8 C. A graduate of a board-approved medical college  
9 located outside the United States may be granted a license to  
10 practice medicine in New Mexico, provided the applicant  
11 presents evidence to the board that the applicant is a person  
12 of good moral character and is in compliance with the  
13 United States immigration laws and provided that the applicant  
14 presents satisfactory evidence to the board that the applicant  
15 has successfully passed an examination as required by the board  
16 and has successfully completed two years of postgraduate  
17 medical training in an approved postgraduate training program.

18 D. All applicants for licensure may be required to  
19 appear personally before the board or a designated agent for an  
20 interview.

21 E. An applicant for licensure by examination shall  
22 not be granted a license if the applicant has taken the  
23 examination in two or more steps and has failed to successfully  
24 pass the final step within seven years of the date that the  
25 first step was passed. An applicant for licensure who holds a

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1 medical doctor degree and a doctoral degree in a medically  
2 related field must successfully complete the entire examination  
3 series within ten years from the date the first step of the  
4 examination is passed; provided that the board may, by rule,  
5 adopt exceptions to the time requirements of this subsection.

6 F. Every applicant for licensure under this section  
7 shall pay the fees required by Section 61-6-19 NMSA 1978.

8 G. The board may require fingerprints and other  
9 information necessary for a state and national criminal  
10 background check."